

IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (previously presented) A method of communicating aircraft and aircraft engine information between business entities in a collaborative development using a system including a first server system controlled and operated by a first business entity and a second server system controlled and operated by a second business entity, the first server system including a first web server hosting a web site of the first business entity and a first database including data owned by the first business entity, the second server system including a second web server hosting a web site of the second business entity and a second database including data owned by the second business entity, said method comprising the steps of:

coupling the first web server to the first database controlled by the first business entity, wherein the first web server populates a first web site with data from the first database such that the first web site has a navigational structure, the data including aircraft and aircraft engine information that the first business entity wants to share with the second business entity;

coupling the second web server to the second database controlled by the second business entity, wherein the second web server populates a second web site with data from the second database such that the second web site has a navigational structure substantially identical to the first web site navigational structure, the data including aircraft and aircraft engine information that the second business entity wants to share with the first business entity;

synchronizing the first web site and the second web site to function together as a collaborative web site wherein at least a portion of the data included in the collaborative web site is hosted from the first web site by the first business entity and at least a portion of the data included in the collaborative web site is hosted from the second web site by the second business entity wherein the collaborative web site is hosted jointly by the first and second business entity;

accessing the first web site and the data stored in the first server system database by a user associated with the second business entity to select a link displayed the collaborative web site;

accessing the second web site and the data stored in the second server system database by a user associated with the first business entity to select a link displayed on the collaborative web site; and

recording changes in the navigational structure of at least one of the first and second web sites in a spreadsheet format.

2. (previously presented) The method of communicating aircraft and aircraft engine information in accordance with Claim 1 wherein said step of coupling the first web server to the first database further comprises the step of providing a first server system hosted by an aircraft engine manufacturer.

3. (previously presented) The method of communicating aircraft and aircraft engine information in accordance with Claim 1 wherein said step of coupling the second web server to the second database further comprises the step of providing a second server system hosted by an aircraft manufacturer.

4. (previously presented) The method of communicating aircraft and aircraft engine information in accordance with Claim 1 wherein said step of accessing the first web site and the data stored in the first server system further comprises the step of accessing data from the first and second server systems based on individual access privileges.

5. (previously presented) The method of communicating aircraft and aircraft engine information in accordance with Claim 1 wherein said step of accessing the first web site and the data stored in the first server system further comprises the step of accessing at least one of aircraft engine and aircraft data relating to at least one of general information data, plans and schedules data, propulsion systems data, and engineering data.

6. (previously presented) A system of communicating aircraft and aircraft engine information between business entities in a collaborative development via a user computer including a browser, said system comprising:

a first server system controlled and operated by a first business entity comprising a first web server and a first database including data owned by said first business entity, said first web server coupled to said first database, said first web server displays a first web site populated with data from said first database at the user computer such that the first web site has a navigational structure; and

a second server system controlled and operated by a second business entity comprising a second web server and a second database including data owned by said second business entity, said second web server coupled to said second database, said second web server displays at the user computer a second web site populated with data from said second database such that the second web site has a navigational structure substantially identical to the first web site navigational structure;

wherein said system is configured to:

synchronize said first web site and said second web site such that said first web site and said second web site function together as a collaborative web site, wherein at least a portion of the data included in said collaborative web site is hosted from said first web site by said first business entity and at least a portion of the data included in said collaborative web site is hosted from said second web site by said second business entity, and wherein the collaborative web site is hosted jointly by said first and second business entities, and the data stored in said first server system database is accessible to a user browser via said second server system, and the data stored in said second server system database is accessible to the user browser via said first server system, and the collaborative website is displayed to a user for accessing data stored in at least one of said first and second server systems; and

receive information from the user browser, wherein the information relates to navigational structure changes entered by the user, and wherein at least one of said first

database and said second database maintains a record of navigational structure changes in a spreadsheet format.

7. (previously presented) The system of communicating aircraft and aircraft engine information in accordance with Claim 6 wherein said data stored in said first server system and said second server system accessible to the user browser based on individual access privileges.

8. (previously presented) The system of communicating aircraft and aircraft engine information in accordance with Claim 6 wherein said first server system hosted by a turbine engine manufacturer, said second server system hosted by a business partner of the turbine engine manufacturer.

9. (previously presented) The system of communicating aircraft and aircraft engine information in accordance with Claim 7 wherein at least one of said first database and said second database includes aircraft data relating to at least one of general information, plans and schedules, propulsion systems, and engineering.

10. (previously presented) The system of communicating aircraft and aircraft engine information in accordance with Claim 7 wherein at least one of said first database and said second database includes aircraft engine data relating to at least one of general information, plans and schedules, propulsion systems, and engineering.

11. (previously presented) The system of communicating aircraft and aircraft engine information in accordance with Claim 7 wherein at least one of said first database and said second database maintains a record of navigation changes.

12. (canceled)

13. (currently amended) A web-based communications system comprising:

a computer comprising a browser;

a network coupled to said computer;

a first server system controlled and operated by an aircraft engine manufacturer and comprising a first web server and a first database, said first web server coupled to said first database and to said network, said first web server configured to display at said computer a first web site having a navigational structure and populated with data from said first database; and

a second server system controlled and operated by a business partner and comprising a second web server and a second database, said second web server coupled to said second database and to said network, said second web server configured to display at said computer a second web site populated with data from said second database and having a navigational structure substantially identical to the first web site navigational structure;

wherein said system is configured to:

synchronize said first web site and said second web site such that said first web site and said second web site function together as a collaborative web site, wherein at least a portion of the data included in the collaborative web site is hosted from said first web site by the aircraft engine manufacturer and at least a portion of said data included in said collaborative web site is hosted from said second web site by the business partner of the aircraft engine manufacturer, and wherein said collaborative web site is hosted jointly by the aircraft engine manufacturer and the business partner, data stored in said first server system database accessible to said browser via said second server system, data stored in said second server system database is accessible to said browser via said first server system, the collaborative website is displayed to a user for accessing data stored in at least one of said first and second server system; and

~~receive information from the user browser transmit information from said browser to at least one of said first server system and said second server system, wherein the information relates to navigational structure changes entered by the user, and wherein at least one of said first database and second databases database maintains a record of navigation changes in a spreadsheet format.~~

14. (previously presented) The web-based communications system in accordance with Claim 13 wherein said first server system hosted by an aircraft engine manufacturer, said second server system hosted by an aircraft manufacturer.

15. (canceled)

16. (previously presented) The web-based communications system in accordance with Claim 14 wherein said browser configured to display aircraft engine data relating to at least one of general information data, plans and schedules data, propulsion systems data, and engineering data.

17. (previously presented) The web-based communications system in accordance with Claim 14 wherein said browser configured to display an historical log relating to navigational changes to said user interface.

18. (previously presented) The web-based communications system in accordance with Claim 14 wherein said browser configured to display aircraft data relating to at least one of general information data, plans and schedules data, propulsion systems data, and engineering data.